

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS19186

Section 54-2604, Idaho Code, defines what a plumbing system is for the purposes of all the plumbing statutes in Title 54, Chapter 26, Idaho Code. The proposed amendment would enlarge the definition of what a plumbing system is by including medical gas and medical vacuum systems. Currently, the installation of medical gas systems which carry highly flammable and potentially dangerous medical gases are not included in the definition of a plumbing system; and therefore, not required to be inspected by the Division of Building Safety. With the proliferation of medical and dental facilities, it is in the best interests of the public health and safety to ensure that such systems are installed in accordance with minimum codes. Additionally, amendments to several other plumbing statutes (Sections 54-2610, 54-2617, and 54-2618, Idaho Code)) would provide that licensed plumbers who install such systems demonstrate that they are minimally qualified to do so by obtaining certification through an approved course of instruction. Finally, inspectors from any enforcement jurisdiction who inspect such installations would be required to obtain certification from a recognized organization that they are qualified to inspect such installations.

FISCAL NOTE

Minimal favorable impact.

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